U.S. Serial No. 09/578,387 Docket No.: 29284/504

## IN THE CLAIMS:

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1. (currently amended) An information recording and reproducing method in which information is recorded by irradiating a recording track on a recording medium with an energy beam and thereby forming recording marks, said recording track being wobbling or deforming with a predetermined period, said information recording and/or reproducing method comprising the steps of:

wobbling or deforming said recording track with a predetermined period;
generating a recording clock from a signal obtained by detecting the wobble or
deformation of said recording track;

forming said recording marks in synchronism with said recording clock; and detecting pre-recorded information of control data on said recording medium; and setting a conversion multiplying factor between a period of the signal obtained by detecting said wobble or deformation and a period of said recording clock, based on said detected pre-recorded information[[.]]; and

forming said recording marks in synchronism with said recording clock.

- 2. (currently amended) An information recording and/or reproducing method according to claim
- 1, <u>further</u> comprising the steps of:

making quantities of user data recorded per single sector equal irrespective of a value of the conversion multiplying factor used when generating said recording clock from said signal obtained by detecting said wobble or deformation; and

making a length of a buffer area preceding a head of a user data portion or a buffer area following a terminus portion of said user data portion longer as the conversion multiplying factor becomes higher.

- 3. (currently amended) An information recording and/or reproducing method according to claim
- 2, <u>further</u> comprising the step of keeping a physical length ranging from a head of said buffer area preceding said user data portion to a terminus portion of said buffer area following said user

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data portion at a nearly same length independently of said conversion multiplying factor by changing the number of channel bits.

- 4. (currently amended) An information recording and/or reproducing method according to claim
- 3, <u>further</u> comprising the step of conducting recording over a length of said buffer area preceding said user data portion and/or a length of said buffer area following said user data portion in a control data zone of said recording medium beforehand.
- 5. (currently amended) An information recording and reproducing apparatus comprising: an energy beam generator
- a power adjusting mechanism for adjusting a power level of an energy beam generated by said energy beam generator;
  - a holding mechanism capable of holding a recording medium;
- <u>a</u> moving mechanism for irradiating said recording medium with said energy beam and relatively moving said energy beam with respect to said recording medium <u>to thereby form</u> recording marks;
- a detector for detecting an energy beam reflected or transmitted in said information recording and reproducing apparatus, a recording track on said recording medium being wobbled or deformed with a predetermined period;
- a wobble or deformation detection circuit to detect the wobble or deformation of the recording track based on a detection signal supplied from the energy beam detector;
- a recording clock formation circuit to generate a recording clock from a signal obtained by detecting the wobble or deformation, and a power level of the energy beam being changed in synchronism with said recording clock by the power adjusting mechanism; and
- a frequency changer circuit to change a conversion multiplying factor between a period of the signal obtained by detecting said wobble or deformation and a period of said recording clock, based on pre-recorded information of control data on the recording medium.

Claims 6-8 (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) An information <u>reproducing</u> method comprising the steps of:

irradiating a recording track on a recording medium with an energy beam;

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detecting an intensity of an energy beam reflected or transmitted by said recording medium, out of said energy beam with which said recording medium is irradiated;

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reproducing information recorded on said recording medium, from an intensity signal of said reflected or transmitted energy beam, the recording track being wobbling or deforming with a predetermined period;

generating a reproducing clock from a signal obtained by detecting the wobble or deformation of said recording track;

discriminating reproduced data by taking said reproducing clock as a reference; detecting pre-recorded information of control data on said recording medium; and setting a conversion multiplying factor between a period of the signal obtained by detecting said wobble or deformation and a period of said reproducing clock, based on said pre-recorded information of control data on said recording medium.

10. (previously presented) An information reproducing apparatus comprising:

an energy beam generator;

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a power adjusting mechanism for adjusting a power level of an energy beam generated by said energy beam generator;

a holding mechanism capable of holding a recording medium;

a moving mechanism for irradiating said recording medium with said energy beam and relatively moving said energy beam with respect to said recording medium;

a detector for detecting an energy beam reflected or transmitted in said recording medium whose recording track is being wobbled or deformed with a predetermined period;

a clock generation circuit to generate a reproducing clock from a signal obtained by detecting the wobble or deformation of the recording track, and reproduced data being discriminated by taking said reproducing clock as a reference; and

a frequency changer circuit to change a conversion multiplying factor between a period of the signal obtained by detecting said wobble or deformation and a period of said reproducing clock, based on pre-recorded information of control data on the recording medium.